Ca	se 2:13-ap-01020-BR Doc 6 Filed 02/07/ Main Document I										
1 2	HOWARD KOLLITZ (State Bar No. 059611) hkollitz@dgdk.com STEVEN J. SCHWARTZ (State Bar No. 200586)										
3	sschwartz@dgdk.com										
	DANNING, GILL, DIAMOND & KOLLITZ, LLP 1900 Avenue of the Stars, 11 th Floor Los Angeles, California 90067-4402 Talanhara. (210) 277, 0077										
5	Telephone: (310) 277-0077 Facsimile: (310) 277-5735										
6 7	Attorneys for Defendant, Counterclaimant and Third-Party Plaintiff, Richard K. Diamond										
8	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT										
9	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA										
10	LOS ANGELES DIVISION										
11											
12	In re	Case No. 2:11-bk-30426-BR									
13	SMB GROUP, INC.,	Chapter 7									
14	Debtor.										
15	SMB GROUP, INC.,	Adv. No. 2:13-ap-01020-BR									
16	Plaintiff,	DIAMOND'S ANSWER TO									
17	VS.	COMPLAINT; AND COUNTERCLAIMS FOR MONEY DAMAGES BASED ON EDALID, NECLICENCE, AND ADJUST OF									
18	RICHARD K. DIAMOND,	FRAUD; NEGLIGENCE; AND ABUSE OF PROCESS									
19	Defendant.										
20 21	DICHARD K DIAMOND										
22	RICHARD K. DIAMOND,										
23	Counterclaimant, vs.	Status Conference:									
24	SMB GROUP, INC. debtor and debtor-in-	Date: March 20, 2013									
25	possession,	Time: 10:00 a.m. Ctrm.: 1668									
26	Counter-defendant.										
27											
28											
	949684.4 8057	1									

Ca	se 2:13-ap-01020-BR Doc 6 Filed 02/07/13 Entered 02/07/13 15:41:37 Desc Main Document Page 2 of 26									
1	RICHARD K. DIAMOND,									
2										
3	Third-Party Plaintiff,									
4										
5	IN CHUL SHIN, aka JEFF SHIN, an individual, UNION TRIM, INC.; USB									
6	W. CHOE, P.C.,									
7										
8	Third-Party Defendants.									
9										
10	ANSWER TO COMPLAINT									
11	Richard K. Diamond, as Defendant herein and as former trustee (the "Defendant" or									
12	"Trustee") answers the Complaint filed on January 7, 2013 by SMB Group, Inc. ("Plaintiff" or									
13	"SMB") as follows:									
14	1. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the									
15	identity of the Plaintiff, SMB Group, Inc., except to admit the Plaintiff purports to be a separate									
16	legal entity and the debtor and debtor in possession in the above-captioned Bankruptcy Case.									
17	2. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about									
18	whom the Plaintiff includes in his allegations as to all "agents, attorneys and others acting upon his									
19	instructions" and, on that basis, denies that the use of the word "Diamond" includes all of those									
20	described in Paragraph 2.									
21	3. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 3.									
22	4. The Defendant is the sole shareholder of Richard K. Diamond, A Professional									
23	Corporation ("RKD, APC"). RKD, APC is a partner in Danning, Gill, Diamond & Kollitz, LLP, a									
24	limited liability partnership composed of professional corporations. Except as alleged, Diamond									
25	denies the allegations of Paragraph 4.									
26	5. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 5.									
27	6. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 6.									
28	7. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 7.									
	949684.4 8057									

The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 8.

8.

1

8

6

11 12

13 14

15

16 17

18

19 20

21

22 23

24 25

26

- 9. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 9 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 10. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 10 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 11. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 11 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 12. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 12 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 13. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 13 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 14. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 14 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 15. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 15 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 16. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 16 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 17. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 17 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 18. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 18 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 19. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 19 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 20. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 20 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 21. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 21 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 22. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 22.

7

5

11

12

10

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

2122

2324

25

2627

- 23. The Defendant alleges that Diamond, individually, never hired any agents in connection with the USB Group Case. Except as so alleged, the Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 23 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 24. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 24 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 25. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 25 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 26. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 26 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 27. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 27 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 28. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 28 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 29. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 29 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 30. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 30 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 31. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 31 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 32. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 32 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 33. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 33 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 34. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 34 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 35. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 35 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

- 36. 1 The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the 2 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 36 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein. 3
 - 37. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 37 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 38. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 38 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 39. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 39 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 40. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 40 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 41. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 41 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 42. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 42 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 43. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 43 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 44. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 44 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 45. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 45 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 46. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 46 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 47. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 47 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 48. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 48 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 49. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 49 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

1

2

3

4

5

- 50. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 50 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 51. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 51.
- 52. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 52 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 53. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 53 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 54. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 54 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

"FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION"

(CONVERSION)

- 55. Answering the allegations in Paragraph 55, the Defendant incorporates herein by this reference all of his responses to Paragraphs 1 through 54, inclusive, of the Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 56. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 56 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 57. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 57 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - 58. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 58.
 - 59. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 59.
 - 60. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 60.
 - 61. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 61.
 - 62. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 62.
 - 63. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 63.
 - 64. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 64.
 - 65. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 65.

"SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION"

2

(VIOLATION OF 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) – CONTEMPT)

3

5

66. Answering the allegations in Paragraph 66, the Defendant incorporates herein by this reference all of his responses to Paragraphs 1 through 54, inclusive, of the Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

6

7

67. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 67 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

8

68. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 68 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

1011

69. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 69 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

12

70. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 70 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

13 14

71. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 71.

15

72. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 72.

16

73. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 73.

The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 74.

1718

74.

75. The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 75.

19

"THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION"

2021

(VIOLATION OF 11 U.S.C. § 543)

22

76. Answering the allegations in Paragraph 76, the Defendant incorporates herein by this reference all of his responses to Paragraphs 1 through 54, inclusive, of the Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

23

77. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 77.

25

24

78. The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 78.

26

79. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 79 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

- The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 80 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 81 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 82 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 83 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 84.
- The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 85 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 86.
- The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 87 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
 - The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 88.
 - The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 89.
 - The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 90.
 - The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 91.

"FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION"

(VIOLATION OF 11 U.S.C. § 542)

- Answering the allegations in Paragraph 92, the Defendant incorporates herein by this reference all of his responses to Paragraphs 1 through 54, inclusive, of the Complaint as though
 - The Defendant admits the allegations in Paragraph 93.
- 94. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 94 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.
- 95. The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 95 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.

26

27

Cá	se 2:13-ap-0	D1020-BR Doc 6 Filed 02/07/13 Entered 02/07/13 15:41:37 Desc Main Document Page 9 of 26					
1	96.	The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the					
2	truth of the a	dlegations in Paragraph 96 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.					
3	97.	The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the					
4	truth of the a	llegations in Paragraph 97 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.					
5	98.	The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 98.					
6	99.	The Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the					
7	truth of the allegations in Paragraph 99 and, on that basis, denies the allegations therein.						
8	100.	The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 100.					
9	101.	The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 101.					
10	102.	The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 102.					
11	103.	The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 103.					
12	104.	The Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraph 104.					
13		FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
14		(<u>FAILURE TO STATE A CLAIM</u>)					
15	105.	The Complaint and each and every claim for relief therein fail to state any claim					
16	upon which a	any relief may be granted.					
17	· 	SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
18		(STATUTES OF LIMITATION)					
19	106.	The Complaint and each and every claim therein are barred under applicable statutes					
20	of limitations	5. · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
21		THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
22		(DERIVED JUDICIAL IMMUNITY)					
23	107.	The Defendant, as an officer of the appointing court, is entitled to derived judicial					
24	immunity fro	m liability for actions carried out within the scope of his official duties as Trustee for					
25	the purported	legal entity USB and as the Trustee for the purported legal entity "Union Trim, Inc.,					

dba USB Group, Inc., dba Alpha Sewing Machine, dba SMG Group, Inc., dba Union Trim" (jointly

and severally, "Union Trim"), Bankruptcy Case No. 2:11-bk-19513-BR (the "Union Trim Case").

The Defendant at all times acted properly within the course and scope of his authority and duties by 949684.4 8057 9

26

27

preserving the assets of Union Trim and USB and by preventing the unauthorized business operations and potential dissipation of property of, or in the possession of, Union Trim and/or USB.

3

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

4 5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

(ESTOPPEL)

108. Plaintiff's "first cause of action" for Conversion is barred by the doctrine of estoppel since, among other reasons, in the Reply to the Opposition to the Motion for Order Holding Richard Diamond in Contempt for Willful Violation of the Automatic Stay (Docket Entry No. 54 in the SMB Bankruptcy Case at page 4, footnote 1), Plaintiff admits as follows: "Despite all of the foregoing and to be VERY CLEAR, SMB DOES NOT COMPLAIN about Diamond's initial seizure of its business. Instead, SMB complains about Diamond's actions AFTER he was informed that the assets he seized belonged to SMB and were NOT the property of 'his' estate." Accordingly, Plaintiff should be estopped from now arguing that the Defendant's alleged actions on March 18, 2011 were wrongful or caused damage to the Plaintiff. In addition, Defendant alleges, on information and belief, that USB, by and through its alleged principal In Chul Shin, aka Jeff Shin ("Shin") and SMB's bankruptcy counsel David A. Tilem, filed, on April 18, 2011, an "Emergency Motion for Order Converting Case to Chapter 11" thereby affirmatively and voluntarily seeking the protection of the Bankruptcy Court. Accordingly, Plaintiff should be estopped from now arguing that the USB Bankruptcy Case was unauthorized or not ratified, whether by Shin and/or an alleged Board of Directors or otherwise.

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(WAIVER)

109. Plaintiff's "first cause of action" for Conversion is barred by the doctrine of waiver since, among other reasons, in the Reply to the Opposition to the Motion for Order Holding Richard Diamond in Contempt for Willful Violation of the Automatic Stay (Docket Entry No. 54 in the SMB Bankruptcy Case at page 4, footnote 1), Plaintiff admits as follows: "Despite all of the foregoing and to be VERY CLEAR, SMB <u>DOES NOT COMPLAIN</u> about Diamond's initial seizure of its business. Instead, SMB complains about Diamond's actions AFTER he was informed that the assets he seized belonged to SMB and were NOT the property of 'his' estate."

C	se 2:13-ap-01020-BR Doc 6 Filed 02/07/13 Entered 02/07/13 15:41:37 Desc Main Document Page 11 of 26					
1	Accordingly, Plaintiff has waived any argument that the Defendant's alleged actions on March 18,					
2	2011 were wrongful or caused damage to the Plaintiff. In addition, Defendant alleges, on					
3	information and belief, that USB, by and through its alleged principal Shin and SMB's bankruptcy					
4	counsel David A. Tilem, filed, on April 18, 2011, an "Emergency Motion for Order Converting					
5	Case to Chapter 11" thereby affirmatively and voluntarily seeking the protection of the Bankruptcy					
6	Court. Accordingly, Plaintiff has waived any argument that the USB Bankruptcy Case was					
7	unauthorized or not ratified, whether by Shin and/or an alleged Board of Directors or otherwise.					
8	SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
9	(PLAINTIFF'S MISCONDUCT)					
0	110. Plaintiff's voluntary conduct pertaining to matters alleged in the Complaint was the					
1	actual and proximate cause of the damages alleged in the Complaint, if any, and not any alleged					
2	acts or omissions of the Defendant.					
3	SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
.4	(PLAINTIFF'S NEGLIGENCE)					
.5	111. Plaintiff's conduct concerning the matters alleged in the Complaint constitutes					
.6	carelessness, negligence, misconduct, and/or bad faith on the part of Plaintiff, or Plaintiff otherwise					
7	was at fault, and all resulting damages, if any, sustained by Plaintiff were proximately caused by					
8	the conduct of Plaintiff including, without limitation, the failures to appear at meetings of creditors					
9	under 11 U.S.C. § 341.					
20	EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
21						
	(CONDUCT OF THIRD PARTIES)					
22	(CONDUCT OF THIRD PARTIES) 112. The conduct of other persons or entities concerning the matters alleged in the					
22						
	112. The conduct of other persons or entities concerning the matters alleged in the					
23	112. The conduct of other persons or entities concerning the matters alleged in the Complaint whom Plaintiff has failed to name and sue as defendants in the Complaint was the actual					
23 24	112. The conduct of other persons or entities concerning the matters alleged in the Complaint whom Plaintiff has failed to name and sue as defendants in the Complaint was the actual and proximate cause of any damages to Plaintiff alleged in the Complaint, if any, and not					
23 24 25	112. The conduct of other persons or entities concerning the matters alleged in the Complaint whom Plaintiff has failed to name and sue as defendants in the Complaint was the actual and proximate cause of any damages to Plaintiff alleged in the Complaint, if any, and not					

949684.4 8057

2

3

6

0

9

10

11 12

13

1415

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24 | 25 |

26

27

28

NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(NEGLIGENCE OF THIRD PARTIES)

113. The conduct of other persons or entities concerning the matters alleged in the Complaint whom Plaintiff has not named or sued as defendants in the Complaint constitutes carelessness, negligence, misconduct, and/or bad faith, or such persons or other entities were otherwise at fault, and the resulting injuries, if any, sustained by Plaintiff were proximately caused and contributed to, in whole or in part, by the conduct of such persons or entities including, without limitation, the failures to appear at meetings of creditors under 11 U.S.C. § 341.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(GOOD FAITH)

114. The conduct of the Defendant with respect to Plaintiff was justified, privileged, and effected in good faith, without malice, spite, or conscious, reckless or negligent disregard of Plaintiff's rights, if any, and without improper purpose or motive, maliciousness, or ill-will of any kind. The conduct of the Defendant was within the reasonable expectations of the parties and was reasonably related to the legitimate interests of the Defendant upon the basis of reasonable factors. Consistent with the foregoing, the Defendant did not directly or indirectly perform or fail to perform any acts which constitute a violation of any right, if any, of Plaintiff, or a violation of any duty or obligation, if any, of Defendant owed to Plaintiff.

ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(BAD FAITH OF PLAINTIFF)

- 115. The conduct of Plaintiff and/or its alleged principal Shin was in bad faith. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- a. Filing, on April 18, 2011, an "Emergency Motion for Order Converting Case to Chapter 11" in the USB Case, thereby affirmatively and voluntarily seeking the protection of the Bankruptcy Court in a Case which was unauthorized; and,
- b. When said motion was denied, filing the SMB Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case for improper and impermissible purposes and which Defendant alleges, on information and belief, was filed by a sham corporation, without any prospects for reorganization and solely as a

C	Main Document Page 13 of 26
1	sanctionable and unethical litigation tactic for the unlawful purpose of frustrating Defendant's
2	activities as the Trustee of both Union Trim and USB.
3	TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
4	(<u>ILLEGALITY</u>)
5	116. The Defendant alleges that, on information and belief, all of the Plaintiff's alleged
6	business activities were, at all relevant times, conducted in violation of applicable laws, so that
7	Plaintiff is not entitled to pursue the litigation commenced by the Complaint.
8	THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
9	(INDEMNITY AND/OR CONTRIBUTION)
10	117. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of
11	the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, the Defendant is entitled to indemnity or
12	contribution from third parties whom Plaintiff has failed to name and sue in the Complaint.
۱3	FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
T I	
۱4	(INDEMNITY AND/OR CONTRIBUTION)
14 15	(INDEMNITY AND/OR CONTRIBUTION) 118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of
15	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of
15 16	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by
15 16 17	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no
15 16 17 18	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an
15 16 17 18 19	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an amount in direct proportion to the culpability of their conduct.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an amount in direct proportion to the culpability of their conduct. FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an amount in direct proportion to the culpability of their conduct. FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (FRAUD)
15 16 17 18	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an amount in direct proportion to the culpability of their conduct. FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (FRAUD) 119. The allegations in the Complaint constitute a fraud on the Defendant and on this
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an amount in direct proportion to the culpability of their conduct. FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (FRAUD) 119. The allegations in the Complaint constitute a fraud on the Defendant and on this Court being perpetrated by Plaintiff.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an amount in direct proportion to the culpability of their conduct. FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (FRAUD) 119. The allegations in the Complaint constitute a fraud on the Defendant and on this Court being perpetrated by Plaintiff. 120. The Defendant presently has insufficient knowledge and information on which to
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	118. If it is established that the Defendant is in any manner legally responsible for any of the damages claimed by Plaintiff in the Complaint, such damages were proximately caused by other persons or entities not yet parties to this action and over whom the Defendant had and has no control, so that Defendant is entitled to indemnity or contribution from these other parties in an amount in direct proportion to the culpability of their conduct. FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE (FRAUD) 119. The allegations in the Complaint constitute a fraud on the Defendant and on this Court being perpetrated by Plaintiff. 120. The Defendant presently has insufficient knowledge and information on which to form a belief as to whether he may have additional, as yet unstated, defenses available to him. The

- 123. This Action is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A), (E) and/or (O). To the extent that this Bankruptcy Court may determine that any of the claims for relief alleged herein are not core proceedings as defined by 28 U.S.C. § 157, Plaintiff hereby consents to the entry of final orders or judgments by the Bankruptcy Court on any such claims for relief.
 - 124. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1409(a).

THE PARTIES

125. Counterclaimant is Richard K. Diamond, the former Chapter 7 Trustee of the purported legal entity Union Trim, Inc., USB Group, Inc., Alpha Sewing Machine, SMG Group, Inc., Union Trim (jointly and severally, "Union Trim") and the purportedly legal entity USB

28

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334.

Diamond makes the same allegations in his Third-Party Complaint filed concurrently herewith, against, inter alia, the following Third-Party Defendants: In Chul Shin, aka Jeff Shin, an individual ("Shin"), USB Group, Inc. dba Alpha Sewing Machine, Union Trim, Inc., and Law Offices of Gene W. Choe, P.C. ("Choe P.C.").

1

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

- Group, Inc., Alpha Sewing Machine, aka In Chul Shin, aka Jeff Shin (jointly and severally, "USB").
- 126. Counter-defendant SMB purports to be a legal entity and the Chapter 11 Debtor and Debtor in Possession in this Bankruptcy Case.
- Shin purports to be the principal and sole shareholder of Union Trim, USB and 127. SMB.
- 128. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that Shin is a resident of Los Angeles, California.
- 129. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges Choe P.C. is, and at all times relevant to this Action purported to be, a separate legal entity in the form of a California professional corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California as well as doing business in the Central District of California.
- 130. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that Gene W. Choe, the individual ("Gene"), filed a bankruptcy petition thereby commencing the case pending under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code in this Bankruptcy Court, and as a result of the imposition of the automatic stay in Gene's Bankruptcy Case, Gene is presently not named as a Third-Party Defendant, although all allegations herein against Choe P.C. apply to Gene as well.
- 131. Diamond is informed and believes and, based thereon, alleges that in doing things and failing to do the things complained of herein, SMB, Union Trim, USB, Shin and/or Choe P.C., acted in concert with other parties, or with the assistance of other parties, each of whom are jointly and severally liable together with SMB, Union Trim, USB, Shin and/or Choe P.C. to Diamond. Diamond is presently unaware of the true names, capacities and activities of such other parties whom, together with SMB, Union Trim, USB, Shin and/or Choe P.C., are referred to in these Counterclaims and in the Third-Party Complaint filed concurrently herewith, jointly and severally, as "Counter-defendants" or "Third-Party Defendants." Diamond will amend these Counterclaims and the concurrently filed Third-Party Complaint when the true names, capacities and activities of such parties included among the Counter-defendants are ascertained.

3

5

6

4

7

9

11

12

13

1415

16

17

18

19

2021

22

23

2425

26

27

28

- 132. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that SMB, Union Trim, USB and Shin are alter-egos of one another so that to recognize the separate existence of any, as distinct legal entities, would be inequitable and perpetrate a fraud upon Diamond and this Court.
- 133. Diamond is informed and believes and, based thereon, alleges that Counter-defendants, in doing the things and not doing the things complained of herein, did so in furtherance of a fraudulent conspiracy among Counter-defendants with the objective of the conspiracy being to damage Diamond for the pecuniary gain of Counter-defendants as well as to conceal the fraudulent activities of Counter-defendants from Diamond.
- 134. Diamond is informed and believes and, based thereon, alleges that, pursuant to such fraudulent conspiracy, Diamond was, in fact, defrauded and damaged and that the true facts involving such fraud and other wrongful activities of Counter-defendants were, at all relevant times, concealed by Counter-defendants from Diamond.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS OF COUNTERLAIMS

Union Trim

- 135. On March 4, 2011, Union Trim, purporting to be a separate legal entity, filed a voluntary petition under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Union Trim Petition").
- 136. The address listed on the Union Trim Petition was 2635 South Main Street, Suite A, Los Angeles, CA 90007.
- 137. No schedules or statements of financial affairs were immediately filed (incomplete bankruptcy schedules were subsequently filed on March 18, 2011) and the Union Trim Petition, which was electronically filed, purported to be signed by Shin.
- 138. An electronic filing Declaration purporting to bear Shin's signature and the signature of Union Trim's attorney, Gene, was filed with the Union Trim Petition, along with a Statement Regarding Authority to Sign and File Petition purporting to bear Shin's signature.
- 139. Diamond was appointed as the interim Chapter 7 trustee in the Union Trim Case and, later, as the permanent trustee.

- 140. On March 18, 2011, Union Trim filed bankruptcy schedules which listed among its assets, "Sewing machines and Screws for Sewing Machines" at a purported market value of "\$100,000."
- 141. One creditor was listed, "Soon Trim, Inc." as a disputed claim in an unknown amount.
- 142. On March 25, 2011, Union Trim filed a "Motion to Dismiss Bankruptcy Petition Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1112(B)" (the "Union Trim Motion to Dismiss").
- 143. In support of the Union Trim Motion to Dismiss, Shin signed a declaration, under penalty of perjury, stating that:
 - a. "I am the Debtor who filed a Chapter 7 case on March 4, 2011."
 - b. "I started SMB Group Inc., DBA Union Trim in 2010."
 - c. "The business is currently inactive, but I intend to continue operating it."
 - d. "There is only a single unsecured creditor."
- e. "I am currently represented by a civil attorney who is assisting me with settling the claim by that creditor."
- f. "I believe that it is unnecessary at this point to continue in a Chapter 7. My creditor will benefit from a termination of the automatic stay to allow them to negotiate with me for payment directly."
- 144. On April 19, 2011, Diamond filed an opposition to the Union Trim Motion to Dismiss.
- 145. After a hearing held on May 3, 2011, the Court entered an Order denying the Union Trim Motion to Dismiss, without prejudice, which Order was entered on May 12, 2011.
- 146. On May 11, 2011, and pursuant to a stipulation, this Bankruptcy Court entered an Order in the Union Trim Bankruptcy Case, allowing Golden Textile, Inc. ("Golden Textile") to obtain materials that it had provided to Union Trim to "finish."
- 147. Documents supplied by Golden Textile to Diamond established that Golden Textile was doing business with Union Trim.

failure to appear at the meeting of creditors under 11 U.S.C. § 341(a). USB Group, Inc.

148.

4

5

6

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17 18

19

21

20

23

24

22

25 26

27

28

149. On March 4, 2011, USB, purporting to be a separate legal entity, filed a voluntary petition under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

On July 28, 2011, the Union Trim Case was dismissed because of the Debtor's

- 150. The address listed on the USB Petition was 2635 South Main Street, Suite B, Los Angeles, CA 90007.
- No schedules or statements of financial affairs were filed and the Petition, which was electronically filed, purported to be signed by Shin.
- 152. An electronic filing Declaration purporting to bear Shin's signature and the signature of USB's attorney, Gene of Choe P.C., was filed with the petition.
- 153. Diamond was appointed as the interim Chapter 7 Trustee in the USB Case and, later, as the permanent Trustee.
- 154. On March 8, 2011, Diamond's administrator sent an e-mail to Gene of Choe P.C. inquiring whether there are any assets that he should be concerned about and when Gene anticipates filing bankruptcy schedules. Diamond's administrator never received a response to such inquiry.
- 155. On or about March 17, 2011, First Bank, a secured creditor of USB (the "Secured Creditor"), contacted Diamond and asserted that USB's business was continuing to be operated and that its collateral was being sold.
- 156. On March 17, 2011, Diamond's administrator and Diamond each sent e-mails to Gene of Choe P.C. demanding that USB cease operations.
- On March 17, 2011, Gene of Choe P.C. responded with an e-mail as follows: "Richard I told my client to stop doing business already. He has only 2 claims and my staff attorney Jason is actively seeking to settle those. Anyway we will comply with your demand, don't worry."
- 158. Notwithstanding these representations from Gene of Choe P.C., Diamond's instructions to cease operations were disregarded.

8

13

15

14

16

17

18

19 20

21

22 23

24

25

- 159. On March 18, 2011, Diamond sent his field representative, Kenneth B. Roelke ("Roelke"), to the premises to close the business. Diamond also hired 24 hour security.
- 160. Roelke reported to Diamond that the property in the building appeared to be commingled such that it was impossible to ascertain which property might have been owned by USB or by Union Trim.
- 161. On March 18, 2011 a Motion to Convert the Case to Chapter 11 was filed by Choe P.C. on behalf of USB (the "First USB Motion to Convert").
- 162. On March 22, 2011, the Secured Creditor filed and served on Diamond its "Non-Consent to Use of Cash Collateral" which gave notice of "its lien and security interest in the Debtor's assets, including inventory, chattel paper, accounts, equipment and general intangibles (and proceeds of the foregoing) including without limitation the sewing machines and parts located at 2635 South Main Street, #B, Los Angeles, CA 90007."
- 163. On March 25, 2011, the Secured Creditor filed a Motion for Relief from the Automatic Stay (the "MFRS"), seeking to repossess its collateral, which it described as "Approximately 150 commercial sewing machines located at debtor's business location at 2635 South Main Street, #B, Los Angeles, CA 90007."
- 164. The MFRS included copies of a promissory note, security agreement and UCC-1 Financing Statement evidencing the Secured Creditor's perfected security interest in the inventory.
- 165. On April 1, 2011, Diamond filed an opposition to the First USB Motion to Convert as being in bad faith based on USB's failure to cooperate with Diamond and USB's failure to file its required Schedules and Statement of Affairs.
- The Secured Creditor also opposed the First USB Motion to Convert, which was 166. never set for hearing.
 - 167. On April 6, 2012, Diamond filed a notice of non-opposition to the MFRS.
- 168. On or about April 7, 2012, The Law Offices of David A. Tilem ("Tilem") filed a substitution of counsel as the attorney for USB, in the place and stead of Choe P.C.
- 169. On April 13, 2011, the Meeting of Creditors under 11 U.S.C. § 341(a) was held, at which meeting no one appeared on behalf of USB.

- 4
- 6
- 8
- 10 11
- 12
- 13
- 14 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28

- 170. On April 15, 2011, Diamond offered USB an opportunity to review its books and records in order to prepare its schedules and statement of financial affairs, but Diamond was informed that USB had no interest in doing so.
- On April 18, 2011, USB, now acting through its new counsel, Tilem, filed an Emergency Motion for Order Converting Case to Chapter 11 (the "USB Second Motion to Convert"), wherein Shin signed a supporting declaration, under penalty of perjury, alleging, among other things, that:
- Shin was asked to sign documents by his lawyer Gene and signed them, a. without asking that they be translated, which turned out to be documents authorizing the filing of bankruptcy petitions for USB, Union Trim and Shin, personally.
- b. Shin was completely unaware that such Bankruptcy Cases had been filed until March 18, 2011, when the businesses were shut down by the Trustee.
- Union Trim, Inc. is a dormant corporation whose assets were sold "about a c. year ago" to another company also owned by Shin called SMB Group, Inc. ("SMB").
 - 172. Shin never produced any sale agreement between Union Trim and SMB.
- 173. Shin's declaration filed in support of the USB Second Motion to Convert contradicted his declaration filed in support of the Union Trim Motion to Dismiss in several respects, including that, in the Union Trim Motion to Dismiss, Shin purported to be "the Debtor who filed a Chapter 7 case on March 4, 2011" and the Union Trim Motion to Dismiss made no mention of the Union Trim or USB Bankruptcy Cases having been filed without authorization.
 - 174. USB's Second Motion to Convert was denied by Order entered April 19, 2011.
- On April 29, 2011, USB, through Tilem, filed a motion to dismiss (the "USB 175. Motion to Dismiss"), which was the second such motion to dismiss and the fourth such motion to dismiss or to convert the USB and Union Trim cases filed by the debtors, by and through Shin, in a span of 43 days.
- On May 17, 2011, the Secured Creditor and Diamond each filed separate oppositions to the USB Motion to Dismiss.

6

5

8

7

10

11 12

13

15

14

16 17

18

19 20

21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

with a 365-day bar against filing another Bankruptcy Case. 178.

On May 31, 2011, the Court entered an Order granting the USB Motion to Dismiss,

- On June 2, 2011, Diamond's counsel gave Shin the key to the premises and the gate opener.
- 179. On June 3, 2011, Roelke met with Shin at the premises to inspect the property and participate in the turnover of the premises.

SMB Group, Inc.

177.

- 180. On May 10, 2012, SMB, purporting to be a separate legal entity, filed a voluntary petition under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "SMB Petition"), listing Union Trim as one of its fictitious business names and its address as # A of 2635 South Main Street, Los Angeles, California (the same "suite" and address as on the Union Trim Petition).
 - 181. No schedules or statement of financial affairs were filed with the SMB Petition.
- 182. On May 11, 2011, Tilem made a demand upon Diamond, as the Trustee in the Union Trim Case, to turn over alleged property of SMB that was allegedly in Diamond's possession.
- 183. On May 12, 2011, Diamond's counsel requested that Tilem provide him with proof of ownership of the property, including an inventory of the SMB property.
- 184. In response, Tilem provided Diamond with a one-page list, including scribbled notes, designated as a partial list of equipment allegedly owned by SMB.
- 185. Because the one-page list was wholly inadequate to substantiate ownership of the property, Diamond's counsel sent an e-mail to Tilem on May 16, 2011, informing him that: "In light of the prior history and uncertainties regarding this case and the cases of the related Debtors, the Trustee will neither grant access to or turn over, any personal property in the absence of a Court order."
- 186. On May 24, 2012, SMB, purporting to be a separate legal entity, filed the Motion For Order Holding Richard Diamond In Contempt For Willful Violation Of The Automatic Stay (the "Contempt Motion"), wherein it alleged that Diamond "willfully and forcibly evicted SMB from its business premises and seized all of its assets (including its books and records) without

Case 2:13-ap-01020-BR	Doc 6	Filed 02/0	7/13	Entered 02/07/13 15:41:37	Desc
·				e 22 of 26	

legal basis or justification prior to the commencement of this case [SMB], and has since refused to release them notwithstanding full knowledge of the commencement of this case [SMB] and notwithstanding repeated demands therefor."

- 187. The Contempt Motion was denied by this Bankruptcy Court by an Order entered on October 18, 2011 (the "Order Denying the Contempt Motion").
- 188. SMB appealed the Order Denying the Contempt Motion to the Bankruptcy Appellate Penal for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (the "BAP").
- 189. On November 28, 2012, the BAP entered an Order reversing the Order Denying the Contempt Motion and remanding the matter to this Bankruptcy Court for a further evidentiary hearing.
- 190. On January 7, 2013, SMB filed a Complaint against Diamond, initiating this Adversary Proceeding No. 2:13-01020-BR (this "Action").
- 191. On January 8, 2013, SMB filed a Notice whereby SMB withdrew the Contempt Motion.

FIRST COUNTERCLAIM FOR RELIEF

[For Money Damages for Fraud]

- 192. Diamond refers to and, by this reference, fully incorporates and alleges herein each and all of the allegations of Paragraphs 121 through 191, inclusive, of these Counterclaims.
- 193. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that, SMB, intentionally and with full knowledge thereof, caused Union Trim and USB to continue unauthorized and illegal business operations with potential dissipation of personal property postpetition, thereby exposing Diamond and the Bankruptcy Estates of USB and Union Trim, as to which Diamond was responsible as the Trustee thereof, to potential liability from the Secured Creditor and other legitimate creditors.
- 194. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that SMB intentionally and with full knowledge thereof, lied to Diamond as to the circumstances surrounding the bankruptcy filings and the ownership of property, in an effort to persuade Diamond to take unwarranted action with respect to property as to which Diamond was responsible as the Trustee,

Case 2:13-ap-01020-BR	Doc 6	Filed 02/0	07/13	Entered 02/07/13 15:41:37	Desc
	Main D	ocument	Page	e 23 of 26	

thereby exposing Diamond to potential liability from the Secured Creditor and other legitimate creditors.

- 195. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that, Diamond reasonably relied upon SMB's fraudulent conduct concerning material facts.
- 196. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that, as a direct and proximate result of the misrepresentations and other fraudulent actions of SMB as alleged herein, Diamond has, in fact, been defrauded and damaged so that Diamond is entitled to recover from SMB actual money damages in amounts according to proof.
- 197. Diamond is informed and believes and, based thereon, alleges that, at all relevant times, SMB acted with malice and with the specific intention of deceiving and damaging Diamond for the pecuniary gain of SMB, so that Diamond is entitled to recover punitive damages from Defendants in amounts to be determined during trial.

SECOND COUNTERCLAIM FOR RELIEF

[For Money Damages for Negligence]

- 198. Diamond refers to and, by this reference, fully incorporates and alleges herein each and all of the allegations of Paragraphs 121 through 197, inclusive, of these Counterclaims.
- 199. Diamond is informed and believes and, based thereon, alleges that SMB owed duties of care to whomever would be appointed as Trustee for Union Trim and USB and that SMB breached those duties as alleged herein.
- 200. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that SMB negligently created the circumstances which proximately caused Union Trim and USB to become involved in proceedings under the Bankruptcy Code and then negligently allowed Union Trim and USB to continue unauthorized and illegal business operations and potential dissipation of personal property post-petition, thereby exposing Diamond and the Bankruptcy Estates of USB and Union Trim, as to which Diamond was responsible as the Trustee thereof, to potential liability from the Secured Creditor and other legitimate creditors.
- 201. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that SMB negligently made untrue and conflicting statements, both in writing and orally, as to the circumstances

С	se 2:13-ap-01020-BR Doc 6 Filed 02/07/13 Entered 02/07/13 15:41:37 Desc Main Document Page 24 of 26					
1	surrounding the bankruptcy filings and the ownership of property, in an effort to persuade Diamond					
2	to take unwarranted action with respect to property as to which Diamond was responsible as the					
3	Trustee, thereby exposing Diamond to potential liability from the Secured Creditor and other					
4	legitimate creditors.					
5	202. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that, as a direct and					
6	proximate result of the negligence of SMB as alleged herein, Diamond has, in fact, been damaged					
7	so that Diamond is entitled to recover from SMB actual money damages in amounts according to					
8	proof.					
9	THIRD COUNTERCLAIM FOR RELIEF					
10	[For Abuse of Process]					
11	203. Diamond refers to and, by this reference, fully incorporates and alleges herein each					
12	and all of the allegations of Paragraphs 121 through 202, inclusive, of these Counterclaims.					
13	204. Diamond is informed and believes, and based thereon, alleges that, by the actions					
14	described herein, including but not limiting to, filing the Union Trim, USB and SMB bankruptcy					
15	petitions, the Union Trim Motion to Dismiss, the USB First Motion to Convert, the USB Second					
16	Motion to Convert, the USB Motion to Dismiss, the Contempt Motion, and the Complaint, SMB					
17	willfully engaged in abuses of process of this Court, multiplying the proceedings unreasonably and					
18	in a vexatious manner, such that SMB should be required, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 105(a) and other					
19	applicable laws, to pay money damages to Diamond according to proof but in an amount not less					
20	than attorneys' fees and costs incurred by Diamond in defending SMB's Complaint and related					
21	legal proceedings.					
22						
23	WHEREFORE, the Defendant prays for Judgment against Plaintiff as follows:					
24	AS TO THE COMPLAINT					
25	(a) Plaintiff take nothing by way of its Complaint;					
26	(b) A judgment be entered in favor of the Defendant and against Plaintiff, together with					
27	an award of attorney's fees and costs in favor of the Defendant; and,					
28	(c) For such other and further relief as the Court determines just and proper.					
	040,004 4 0055					

Ca	se 2:13-ap-0	1020-BR	Doc 6 I Main Doc	Filed 02/0° cument		Entered 02/07 25 of 26	/13 15:41:37	Desc			
1	AS TO THE COUNTERCLAIMS										
2	(d)	On the Fi	rst Counter	claim for R	elief,	for damages in a	n amount to be	determined at			
3	trial.			•							
4	(e)	On the Fin	rst Counter	claim for R	elief,	for punitive dama	ages in an amou	int to be			
5	determined at trial.										
6	(f) On the Second Counterclaim for Relief, for damages in an amount to be determined										
7	at trial.										
8	(g)	On the Th	ird Counter	rclaim for l	Relief,	for money dama	ges to Diamon	d in an amount			
9	not less than Diamond's attorneys' fees and costs in amounts to be determined at trial.										
10	(h)	On each a	nd all of th	e Counterc	laims:	(1) for Diamond	's reasonable a	ttorneys' fees			
11	and Diamond's costs incurred; and, (2) for such other and further relief as may be determined to be										
12	just and prope	er.									
13											
14	DATED: Feb	oruary 7, 20	13	DAN	NINO	G, GILL, DIAMO	OND & KOLLI	TZ, LLP			
15	•										
16				By:	****	/s/ Steven J. S					
17						VEN J. SCHWA neys for Defender		imant and			
18					Third	d-Party Plaintiff,	Richard K. Dia	amond			
19											
20											
21											
22											
23											
24				7				·			
25	•										
26			1								
27											
28	0404044				25						

PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is 1900 Avenue of the Stars, 11th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067-4402.

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled (*specify*): <u>DIAMOND'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT; AND COUNTERCLAIMS FOR MONEY DAMAGES BASED ON FRAUD; NEGLIGENCE; AND ABUSE OF PROCESS</u> will be served or was served (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and manner required by LBR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manner stated below:

1. <u>TO BE SERVED BY THE COURT VIA NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING (NEF)</u>: Pursuant to controlling General Orders and LBR, the foregoing document will be served by the court via NEF and hyperlink to the document. On <u>February 7, 2013</u> I checked the CM/ECF docket for this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding and determined that the following persons are on the Electronic Mail Notice List to receive NEF transmission at the email addresses stated below:

Attorney for Plaintiff SMB Group, Inc.: David A Tilem davidtilem@tilemlaw.com, malissamurguia@tilemlaw.com; dianachau@tilemlaw.com; joanfidelson@tilemlaw.com
United States Trustee (LA) ustpregion16.la.ecf@usdoj.gov

☐ Service information continued on attached page.

2. <u>SERVED BY UNITED STATES MAIL</u>: On <u>February 7, 2013</u>, I served the following persons and/or entities at the last known addresses in this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope in the United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration that mailing to the judge <u>will be completed</u> no later than 24 hours after the document is filed.

Attorney for Plaintiff SMB Group, Inc. Kevin S. Lacey Law Offices of David A. Tilem 206 North Jackson Street, Suite 201 Glendale, CA 91206

☐ Service information continued on attached page.

3. SERVED BY PERSONAL DELIVERY, OVERNIGHT MAIL, FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION OR EMAIL (state method for each person or entity served): Pursuant to F.R.Civ.P. 5 and/or controlling LBR, on February 7, 2013, I served the following persons and/or entities by personal delivery, overnight mail service, or (for those who consented in writing to such service method), by facsimile transmission and/or email as follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration that personal delivery on, or overnight mail to, the judge will be completed no later than 24 hours after the document is filed.

Personal Delivery (To be delivered 2/8/13)
The Honorable Barry Russell
U.S. Bankruptcy Court
Roybal Federal Building
Bin outside of Suite 1660
255 E. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-3332

☐ Service information continued on attached page.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

February 7, 2013

Cheryl Caldwell

Date

Printed Name

Signature